

BALTIMORE ASSOCIATION FOR THE
Moral and Educational Improvement of the Colored People,
ROOMS 3 and 4 BIBLE HOUSE.

Baltimore, Sept 14 1865

Dear Sirs

131- Our association met on Monday evening last and deferred all action respecting the new Confederation until it heard from you and from the Penna Association.

It was thought that as you raised most of the money and devised means for that purpose in fields of which we knew nothing it was better to let you say whether the new order of things was likely to assist you or not. You will understand therefore that what I say is not the voice of the Society; for which I have no right to speak, but is simply an expression of my own views, in which however a majority or least of our Executive Committee concur.

We think the expense of the machinery now that Mr Almstead declines is out of all proportion to its usefulness. All that reconciled our delegates to the Confederation was the assurance of Dr Bellows and Mr.

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In^c Kim that Mr Elmstead was so efficient
an agent - that expense was not to be con-
sidered in his employment.

The Constitution which has been sent
us has been materially altered in one
respect. It was originally provided
that the General Confederation should
receive all European donations not
specifically sent to other Associations.

Without this, which I did not like at
the time, the Confederation is without
support. It was provided that it should
not invade the provinces of other Associations
to beg, and I cannot tell whence it is to
draw material aid, for there is no provision
that the Scandinavia aid Union is to pay any-
thing. The fact that it is without means
however so far as its labors are concerned
makes little difference for it is provided that
it shall have nothing to do -

It cannot interfere with the Associations
in stationing teachers - recalling them or
raising money for their support - All it
appears to be required to do is to cooperate

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with the Freedmens Bureau and for that,
little money is required, for we have co-
operated with that Bureau quite as ef-
fectually as it will & it has cost us
little.

A great deal is hidden under the
word Co-operation. It may imply such
close alliance with it, that the people at
the South will hardly know which is Freed-
mans Association & which is Government.

I look upon such an alliance as
dangerous. I have no objection to furnish-
ing help to any extent to the Bureau but I do not
wish to become part of it or responsible for
its conduct.

I wish our movement to be strictly
humanitarian, benevolent philanthropic.

I wish the Southern people so to understand
it. I do not wish arrayed against us
any of the passion, prejudice or hate which
the Freedmans Bureau in confiscating land
or by the use of arms may in the prosecution
of its affairs, engender.

I want education to follow the word.

but not to wield it. and while I wish
the Freedmans Bureau every success
I wish it to work out its salvation
with fear and trembling with Andrews
Johnsons present views as bevir may

win the support of our cause to rest
in the hearts of benevolent men North and
South and not on administrations

To keep the confidence of the people
at home our teachers and agents must
be unconnected with any Bureau at
Washington - People will think their
reports are colored to suit the views of
the administration upon which in some
measure they are dependent if so be
we make them so - All our agents and
teachers now represent to us that a
woful opposition to the education
and elevation of the colored man exists
at the South. They are but bold free

They cannot even in Maryland where voluntary Emancipation has taken place be heard to make complaint in a Court how much worse is their case likely to be in Alabama & Georgia;

Children are here seized at the hearth stone of their parents and bound to their former masters. In Worcester County in this State public notice is given by hand bill & poster that no negro school shall be established there; - the penalty - three hundred being exile to the vendor of the lot on which it is built and the torch for his houses & barns.

Mr Johnson says these representations "are pestilential and malignant utterances" in his speech to the Southern Allegation Sept 11.

Will the Freedmans Bureau say they are true? Will our agents be allowed so to say when "co operating" with it?

If we maintain our independence the hearts and confidence of the people will be with us. We will organ

- life & prosecute the grandest & most
noble work of history - the education
& elevation of a whole race - If we
prefer the support - of the sword or of a
party - we will die with the party
& perish by the sword.

We are entitled to no more protection
than other citizens prosecuting lawful
enterprise. Let the Administration be
"reconstructed" as that we may love it!

We shall survive all parties if indepen-
dent of them and be a rallying point
in the North for all men who are
determined, that nationally, through
the Government, the Negro shall be
declared and treated as a man

I will refer your letter to our Board
& have a committee appointed to state
its views.

Messrs Wm Lloyd Garrison -
Chas. Lowe
Ed & Philbrick

Yours truly

Hugh L. Bond.

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P.S.

I hope if our present en-
eration is not satisfied that
we will make Bishop Simpson
President of our Union -

He can be of great service
in stirring the Methodist people
who are as numerous as Pharaoh's
frogs in the Central States, up
to some effort in our behalf.

A.B.

Vol.

I hope if our friends could
be made more acquainted with
the nature of our business -

the cause of our business -

in shortening the distance between

who are on the one hand

and who are on the other

to some extent

to some extent

to some extent

to some extent

to some extent

to some extent

to some extent

to some extent